

THE LATEST FADS

Daisy May Tells of the Newest Fancies Of the Up to Date Maiden.

OF WOMANKIND.

FADS are as contagious as measles," sighed Dorothy, who strolled in the other afternoon for a cup of chocolate and an almond tart. "No sooner does one originate than the idea is copied, repeated, etc., and a fad is the result and an epidemic imminent." Apropos of these disconsolate remarks, that sister of mine made me familiar with several of the latest fads of fashion folk which to me were tremendously interesting. Her especial grievance concerned a party frock which had come over for wear at the first Assembly, and with which she intended to win and hold the fort for the smartest and most original gown of the season. It was her own notion to have a mousseline frock covered all over with violets set about two inches apart. Madame, to whom she intrusted the building of this confederation, numbered other Americans among her customers and suggested flower trimmed ball gowns for two of them; immediately we have an artificial flower fad extending over tremendous area. They are applied to skirts, sashes, diaphanous dresses and stocks for theater wear, along with innumerable evening gowns beautified by roses, forget-me-nots, snowdrops and narcissus blooms.

Dorothy's dress is a dream. Under the mousseline, which is ivory white, there is violet tulle which gives a faint purplish flush well according with the flowers. On the bodice both green and violet tulle appear, with a great rope of the dainty blossoms fastened to the left side, hanging free from the waist line to the edge of her skirt. Fringe bands of violets simulate sleeves, and she wears a bracelet of them on her right wrist, from which is suspended a tiny empire fan composed entirely of violets. This is in lieu of the conventional bouquet. The ensemble is very fetching and in it may be observed several suggestions which might be utilized by some of us who do not indulge in great extravagances. For instance, the floral bracelet might accompany a floral stock and a simple row made more pretentious by the addition of a mousseline mesh fringed with flowers, while the fan garniture is easily accomplished and may be used with impunity on many occasions. One of white satin covered in pink roses would be dainty, and one with a border of large white, yellow or black chrysanthemums secured quite on the edge of a fan with substantial sticks simply gorgeous.

The flower craze has extended to stock and lengths of velvet ribbon submitted to this treatment are a prevailing fancy. I can see the simple white muslin frock of the June days wonderfully transformed by wearing a silken tash with spids covered in flowers.

Women are wearing nets again—not of the street nor yet indoors where they may be seen instead of braiding the tresses at night the hair is softly coiled and a heavy meshed net holds it in place. This is but an indication of the hold hygiene has taken upon the feminine conscience and that its influence is no longer confined to the nursery management. Air, proper ventilation and protection from snarls are afforded by the net, and the well groomed woman will not be slow to adopt its use. Some mothers, realizing the benefits to be derived by not wearing, are putting them on their little ones' heads as well.

Dorothy tells me in this connection that nightcaps, too, are having a vogue, some preferring them to the net. As a compromise she has knitted herself one of coarse white silk, run a ribbon through and framed her face in a frill of wash lace. You can't imagine a more picturesque affair, and, as she wears low necked nightdresses, with short puff sleeves, the altogether is as delicious a bit of femininity as ever came my way.

Among the old fashions revived none is more pleasing than that of serving luncheon on the polished table top with the use of mats. Mahogany is, of course, the most beautiful for the pur-

pose. Much rivalry exists among the fair sex in the making of mats. Embroidered ones are possible to almost any one, but the desire for originality, and this fact rather taxes one's ingenuity. None is prettier than the diamond shape squares of fine linen, hem-stitched and done in patterns of convent drawn work, particularly when mounted upon silk linings which pertain to the color scheme of the luncheon. A daffodil tea would require yellow, and the laurel luncheon deep green. By the way, a clever girl with a small income gave what she was pleased to term a "laurel luncheon" a few weeks ago, and now at one out of every half dozen places I go to the "L. L." is the order of the day. My friend was the proud possessor, fortunately, of a magnificent old mahogany table, which was prettily sprinkled with leaf shaped mats of sheer linen, with a glimmer of green quite perceptible. A spacious green

glass bowl in the center was filled with branches of mountain laurel, and flat dishes filled with tender sprigs were placed here and there about the room, and when the finger bowls were brought into requisition a laurel twig accompanied, and each guest followed the example of her hostess by tucking the sprig into her blouse.

"Theater books" are to be mentioned among the fads, and, according to a programme of recent date, Sembrich, the opera singer, is their sponsor. It tells of the fad thuswise: "Marcella

are pasted in. Some of the books inside and out are elaborately designed in white and gold.

"Nothing has given me more pleasure than my theater book," said a young woman who has displayed both humor and originality in keeping hers. "I've always kept my programmes, of course, every right minded woman does. But, as I was about to say, I never kept my programmes carefully until I fell heir to this book. I just put them into a scrapbook higgledy piggledy, without criticism or comment, and as a result, when I came to look over them on a rainy day I found frequently that I could not recall this, that or the other point about a performance. The theater book bolsters up the memory wonderfully."

The chateleine bracelet is the newest edition of the chateleine craze. From a gold link bracelet are suspended the various belongings of the ordinary chateleine, with a monnaie added. The monnaie are of gold or gun metal. The chains are five inches long. A tiny bonbon box, a mirror and a link purse are suspended from three, and from the fourth is a monnaie. The chateleine monnaie is set in a narrow gold rim and has a fine two inch handle.

Whether or not the monnaie will be adopted here remains to be seen. In Paris every fashionable woman is wearing one, using it upon all occasions, and as the exhibition will take a great many Americans there in the summer it is not improbable that by next winter the monnaie habit will have struck New York.

Sembrich has a book in which every performance at which she sings is recorded. Many women keep books in which they record every performance they witness. There was a time when just any old book, a ledger or a scrapbook, was thought quite good enough for the preservation of programmes of operas, concert and theater, but that is no longer the case. A special theater book is now considered a necessary possession by every theater going woman.

"The theater book may be a thing of beauty, and, if carefully and properly kept, should prove a joy forever, and in years to come valuable in a family. Each left hand page has spaces which, when filled in, tell to what place of amusement the owner went on a certain date, with whom she went, what the performance was, who were the leading performers, and then there is room for her to criticize the play and players. Space is also provided in which the comments of professional critics may be inserted. The opposite page is left blank, and there the programme and pictures of the stars



THE NEW BRAIDED WALKING COSTUMES.

much better conditioned both in body and mind.

Once upon a time it was the custom for the ultra smart woman to pack her trunks and fly away to Europe or some spot in which laxity in Lenten observance was not frowned upon. Women, too, who had large country houses filled them with congenial spirits and a mild round of Lenten festivities were kept up far from the disapproving frowns of the shepherds of souls.

This latter plan worked badly, however. Rectors heard of the gayety, and the women who had not been invited to the house parties assumed such righteous airs of indignation that they would reveal out of town found it best to reveal alone. Yet many sensible women do spend the Lenten days in the country, riding, driving and walking, and regaining health and strength for the busy days that follow Easter.

Instead of idling through the season with an occasional aesthetic visit to church services, the present tendency is to have some active employment in accordance with the principle that "to labor is to pray."

The most fashionable women in society originated the custom of organizing a series of drawing room lectures during Lent. There is a double purpose in this; the woman who all winter has been too busy to bestow much thought on the cultivation of her mind thus emphasizes the fact that she is a woman of letters as well as a woman of fashion and also satisfies her benevolent inclinations by the thought that she is encouraging aspiring women disciples of the arts and sciences.

One of the most fashionable of New York's Lenten occupations is Mrs. Rorer's sewing class. It is one of the institutions of society, and the most frivolous woman of the Four Hundred regards admission to this charmed circle as something to be striven for, even as one should strive for entrance into the peerly rate of aristocracy for it is an indication that one belongs to the select of New York's innermost social circle, of which Mrs. Astor stands a sort of feminine St. Peter. The class meets at Mrs. Astor's house on Fifth street, where certain mornings during Lent to sew for the poor. The garments have been cut out before they arrive, and each lady quietly sews herself and, with thread and needle, goes to work on the long seams, while some one of the number reads from an interesting or improving volume.

The lectures of Mr. John Stoddard and Mr. Bagby, without which no New

York Lent would seem Lent, are, of course, not possible for drawing room audiences. Mr. Stoddard lectures on different countries, illustrating his lectures by handsome stereoscopic pictures. He has a charm of manner and an eloquence which give to the subjects a fascination all his own. The popularity of the Stoddard lectures in New York for several seasons past has been phenomenal.

Mr. Bagby's lecture recitals have always been given at the Waldorf-Astoria. The song birds of the opera are employed to illustrate them, and there-

fore the cost of the course places it beyond the means of any but very wealthy women. At these lectures may be seen practically the same faces that are on view in the lower tier of boxes on a fashionable night at the opera.

Miss Jane Meade Welch was the first among women to take up parlor lecturing, and she is, of course, one of the most popular of the Lenten entertainers. She was once a Buffalo newspaper woman, serving an apprenticeship of ten years in journalism before she began to lecture on American history, which she has made her field. She was a college friend of Mrs. Grover Cleveland, and that lady, as wife of the president, introduced her to Washington and New York society and assured her success. Miss Welch recently was given an honorary degree by the University of Cambridge. She is one of the new women to be so honored. Her beauty and personal magnetism were no small factor in her success. She has a bright, interesting style and was the first to popularize American history among women.

Miss Jennie Melvone Davis has also made her success as a lecturer on American history. She made her debut in the New York free lecture course and soon had a short lecture course to include the small towns about New York. From this she stepped to lecturing in the parlors of society women was a short one. The parlor lectures are more popular with the lecturers because the returns are larger and more certain. Course tickets for 10 or 12 lectures sell for \$10 in advance, so that when the lecturer is a popular one and gives lectures each day to about 50 or a hundred women the results in dollars is very soon satisfying, to the one on the platform at least.

Miss Adele Gould, whose business it is to instruct on topics of the day, is one of the most popular and successful of women lecturers. She devotes herself to the giving of parlor talks and is busy during the entire winter and spring.

Miss Mary Proctor, daughter of the famous astronomer, is one of the bright particular stars of the Lenten lecture galaxy. Her talks on the starry heavens are as delightful as the most charming bit of fiction, and as she both interests and instructs she is at all seasons one of the very busiest of persons.

The subject of taking care of the house and of cooking all sorts of dainties to tempt the appetite has come to be one of the pet subjects of parlor lectures. Her talks on the starry heavens are as delightful as the most charming bit of fiction, and as she both interests and instructs she is at all seasons one of the very busiest of persons.

THE PARLOR LECTURE

—AS A—
LENTEN PASTIME.

WELCOME is Lent to the woman of society. The woman of the world, when Ash Wednesday rolls round, mentally, physically and spiritually needs renovation. Whether or not she benefits much in spiritual condition, Easter should certainly see her

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prepares an instructive list of the best of the latest books for her Lenten audiences of the parlor class. The book of Job, which she has adapted for the purpose of platform reading, is a favorite number on such programmes.

Taken as a whole, the fashion of taking up some branch of study and following it out during Lent is one of the least harmful ways of spending time which with women of fashion is more often passed in idleness than not. It opens a field of work for women who are called upon to earn their own livings, and it cannot but improve many in real need of intellectual improvement.

EDITH LAWRENCE.

A FAVORITE OF FASHION.

A young German-American painter, Wilhelm Heinrich Funk, who enjoys so great a reputation as a portrait painter in America, is winning golden opinions abroad. This is the first time that Mr. Funk has exhibited in London, but his exhibition is interesting from the fact that, instead of bringing over a number of portraits from America of people unknown there, he is showing nothing but portraits of well known English social personalities that he has painted since he went to England, some months ago. The chief item in the collection was to have been a full length portrait of Princess Christian (who has refused all requests to sit for her picture for the last 20 years), but owing to her royal highness' indisposition and the treacherous weather, the sittings had to be postponed until later, and a most brilliant preliminary sketch of the princess' head is all that there is to show for the moment. It is no wonder that in a collection of 12 portraits, which have been painted in two months, the work should be somewhat unequal, says Vanity Fair in commenting, "and that some of them, such as the large canvas of Lady Acland and the child's portrait, Master Harry Stansfield, would be better for a greater degree of finish. But this is a trifling and easily rectified drawback when compared with the brilliant flesh painting and rich color which characterize such portraits as Lady Elcho, Lady Colin Campbell, Mrs. J. Ogilvy Haig, Viscountess X, and the admirable sketch of Mrs. Brown Potter, which was painted, it is said, in two sittings. There is certainly no monotony in Mr. Funk's portraits. He aims evidently at making them not only good likenesses, but essentially decorative. Nothing could be more charming than the oval portrait of Mrs. Ogilvy Haig, quiet and harmonious in the tones of the dress and background, which brings out the delicacy of the flesh to perfection, and certainly not many painters would have had the pluck to put the brilliant emerald green background which makes such an admirable contrast with Lady Colin Campbell's black dress and black Spanish hat and harmonizes so well with the warm ivory tints of the face."

A CHARACTERISTIC STORY.

In a village in the English lake district a gentleman established a library for the benefit of the people, and just before it was opened Ruskin was asked to inspect it.

He did so willingly, was much pleased with all he saw and, after warmly expressing his approval, finally departed with a promise to send a present of books. It came in the form of a magnificent set of Scott's novels.

The wife of the founder of the library thought the books far too handsomely got up for the purpose for which they were intended and expressed this opinion to the donor.

"Madam," said he, "if the money the books cost had been spent for floral decoration or for wines for a dinner nothing would have been said against it, but because it was laid out for the enjoyment of simple villagers it is considered extravagant."

NOVEL USE OF LACE AND FUR.

The combination of lace and fur and also of lace and chiffon in the costumes of the winter has been one of the distinct novelties of the season. Each of these materials represents to the mind the extremes of temperature. Fur is the typical winter stuff, and tulle and chiffon, gauzy and light, the scantiest protection which one could choose against the sultry atmosphere of summer.

The combination of the two seemed the most unlikely thing to be depended upon for success; nevertheless it has attained to an amazing vogue. Fashionable women are seen wearing it on every thoroughfare in confirmation of this statement. The lace and the fur or fur and tulle or chiffon, are combined in the making of toques.

A bit of mink skin which will be perched coquettishly beside a cluster of apparently dewy violets, or a cluster of jaunty roses will brush their cheeks lovingly against a bit of mink which has been elevated to the dignity of crowning her golden tresses. A bit of lace sandwiched between the flowers, a choux of chiffon over the face or at the side, to present a soft line between face and fur, completes the toque. One may also add to the list the inevitable buckle. The fur scarf that twines about the neck, and is of fur to match the toque, is in such cases the prettier for a knot of the lace or a bit of chiffon or tulle, with a real flower resting in its folds. The fashion has its advantage, for fur scarfs soon show wear, and the lace may be so adjusted that it covers the place where the fur is wearing off.

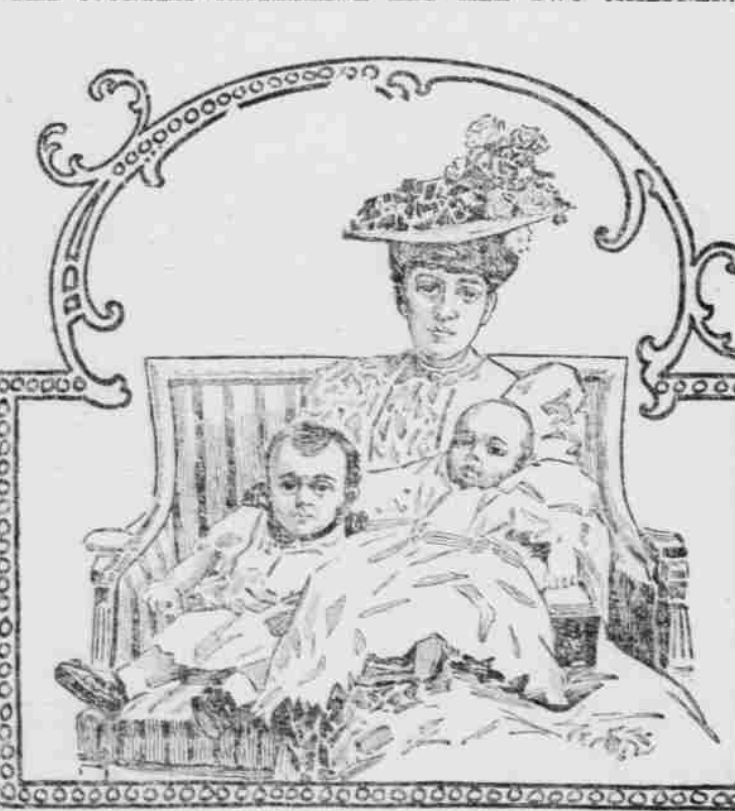


USEFUL AND PRETTY VEIL.

Many people with very delicate skins find their lives a burden in cold, windy weather for them to walk or drive in the open air without having to appear with a flushed, burning face during the subsequent evening. We cannot muffle our faces and ears as though we were touring in Siberia without exposing ourselves to ridicule, so that all whose tender cheeks are habitually punished by the rude blasts will be thankful to know of a new veil which is such a protection to the face that any one wearing it can drive at the highest speed, meeting the keenest east wind with perfect comfort, and, after a day's journey, will find herself not only as clean as when she started, but quite free from the apprehension that her cold cheeks and nose will assume a most unbecoming hue when she has been a short time in a warm room.

The mask veil is composed of a light, colorless material which is invisible under an ordinary spotted net, and while protecting the face from cold winds as effectively as if the wearer were sheltered behind a glass screen, does not interfere with free respiration.

THE COUNTESS CASTELLANE AND HER TWO CHILDREN.



Despite newspaper rumors to the contrary, one of the happiest international marriages of recent years has been that of Miss Anna Gould to the Count de Castellane. The accompanying illustration is from the latest photograph of the countess, showing her with her two strong and handsome little children. The picture was taken in Paris just before the departure of the count and countess for the United States, where they now are.

LITTLE ITEMS FOR WOMEN.

Queen Victoria has given orders that no horse in the royal stable shall have its tail docked. This has affected English styles, and shipments of carriage horses from this country to England have lately been ordered without docked tails.

Mrs. L. L. Hills, state organizer in Iowa for mothers' clubs, reports that there are mothers' clubs in 86 out of the 90 counties of Iowa, and that mothers' meetings are held in each school every Friday afternoon. The national con-

THEY MUST NOT WEAR CORSETS.

The Roumanian minister of public instruction has sent a circular to the head mistresses of all girls' schools in Roumania to the following effect: "Experiments based on science and practice having shown that stays are hurtful to health and interfere with the action of the organs of respiration, I decree that you strictly forbid the use of stays to the pupils of your establishment. A circular which was not long ago issued by the Russian government, with what result The British Medical Journal, which calls attention to the fact, does not know.

not hope to find them husbands.

Boys, on the other hand, very soon become self supporting, and when they marry they increase the wealth of the family by bringing into it brides with money. Sicilian girls live a very secluded life, but they are kindly treated, and at about 14 or 15 years of age they are disposed of in marriage, according to the will of their parents, and generally for purely financial considerations.

Mrs. Phoebe Hearst of California maintains the Hearst Free Library and Reading Room at Lead, S. D., paying all the expenses. It contains 4,000 volumes and is largely patronized, al-

though Lead is situated in the Black Hills region.

Mrs. Hearst is interested in the welfare of the district, as she owns a large share of the stock of the Homestake Mining company.

Miss Sewell, the English lady who wrote "Black Beauty," sold the manuscript to a publisher for £25. Chiefly through the efforts of the American Humane society more than 2,000,000 copies have been put in circulation.

Nettie Dickcy of Stanton, Del., has recently returned to her home after leading the life of a tramp for several years. During that time she chafed wood for a living, slept in empty box cars and

lived in cheap lodging houses.

She visited the principal cities of the United States and is now willing to abandon her roving life and settle in Stanton.

Miss Claire Helena Ferguson of Salt Lake City holds the unique position of a woman deputy sheriff. Her duties include serving papers, civil and criminal, notifying jurors and caring for insane women on their way to the state asylum. She does not make arrests.

Mrs. M. H. Walker of Denver, Colo., has been appointed matron of the Arapahoe county jail for a second term. Her work in charge of the women and little boys in the jail has been commended

by all charitable and philanthropic persons interested in the condition of public institutions.

In Chicago there is a versatile young woman who for ten years ran a drug store and later served as an expert nurse, janitress and plumber at the home of the Young Women's Christian association.

One of the first letters of sympathy received by General Roberts after the death of his son in South Africa was from the ex-Empress Eugenie, revealing how the general had given her a sprig of flowers from the garden. The prince imperial fell in the Zulu war.

MADRAZO'S PORTRAIT OF MRS. EDWIN GOULD.



Of all the portrait commissions executed by the distinguished artist, M. Ramundo de Madrazo last season probably the most successful from many points of view was the full length portrait of Mrs. Edwin Gould. It is certain that M. de Madrazo did not have a fairer sitter than she. The picture was recently delivered to the Goulds, and it is generally understood in art circles that M. de Madrazo received \$15,000 for it.

Mrs. Edwin Gould was a Miss Shady, the adopted daughter of Dr. Shady, the well known New York physician. She married Edwin Gould, second son of the late Jay Gould, several years ago.